

Department of Forestry and Fire Management

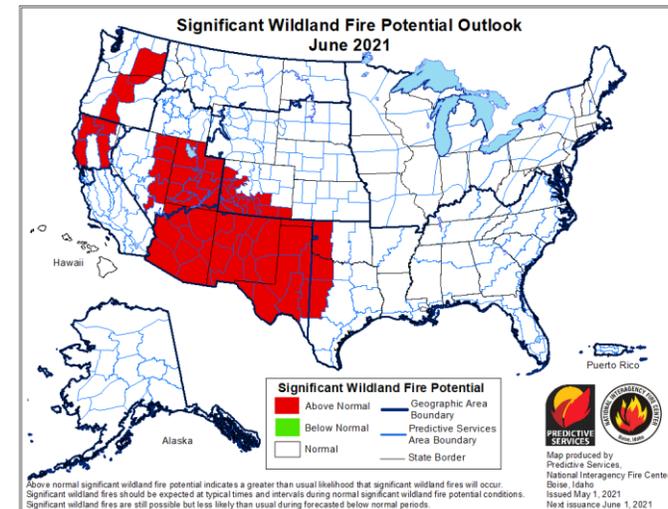
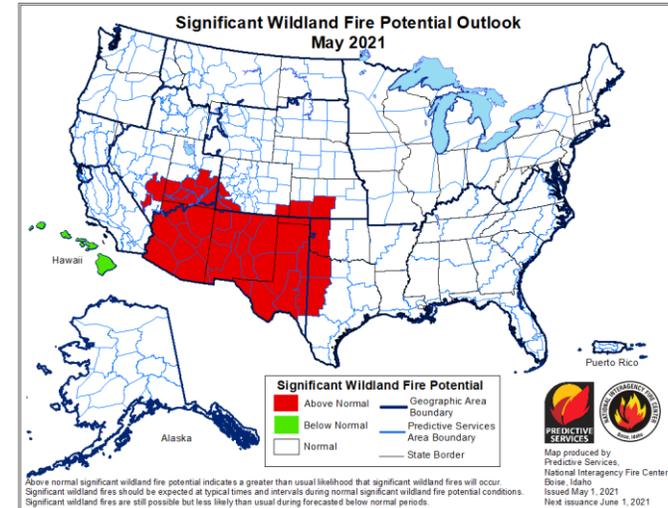


Tiffany Davila
Public Affairs Officer
tdavila@dfm.az.gov



2021 Outlook & Seasonal Factors

- Fire activity expected early due to La Nina, lack of precipitation, drought situation, unburned, carryover of fine fuel across Sonoran Desert
- Widespread activity predicted by late May/early June
- Early forecasts indicate timely arrival of Monsoon w/average activity



2021 Activity

2021: 341 fires; 17,853 acres

2020: 212 fires; 1,425 acres

2020: 2,520 fires; 978,519 acres



Margo Fire, April 2021, Dudleyville, AZ

*Stats reflect YTD 1/1/2021-5/3/2021 on all land, private, state, federal, and tribal



2021 Activity

Sour Fire, 1,200 acres

Prescott National Forest – USFS

Margo Fire, 1,148 acres

Dudleyville, AZ – State

Flag Fire, 1,265 acres

Near Pine Lake – BLM

Bonito Rock Fire, 1,668

acres

San Carlos Reservation – BIA



Flag Fire, April 2021, Pine Lake



Historical Trends in Fire Activity

- 2020, 82% human-caused
2019, 78% human-caused
2018, 68% human-caused*
- Human-caused fires more prevalent in spring, coinciding with windy & dry conditions
- Lightning-caused fires more prevalent from June onward as the state enters monsoon season.

*significant decrease in human-caused fires due to closures on State Trust Land and USFS lands because of severe drought situation during 2018.



Preparedness Levels

Preparedness 1 – 5

1: Less Severe – Fire agencies able to suppress fires on their own without requesting additional resources. Fire activity below normal.

5: Most Severe – Highest level of fire activity. Several geographic areas are working large, complex incidents, which have potential to exhaust national wildland firefighting resources.

Currently at Preparedness Level 3 – moderate category. Typically indicates two or more geographic areas (Arizona and NM) requiring significant amounts of wildfire suppression resources from other areas.

Crews prepositioned, five USFS hotshot crews in state, April arrival of aircraft; Very Large Air Tankers (VLATs), Large Air Tankers (LATs), Single Engine Air Tankers (SEATs), and possible use of Water Scoopers again this year

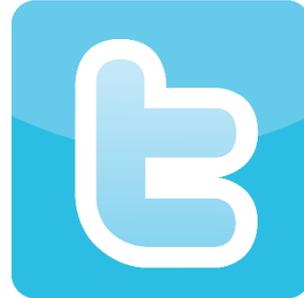


2021 Resource Availability

- DFFM has access to 260 local fire department/districts with qualified wildland firefighters
- Department has access to 2,500 wildland firefighters
- DFFM has 13 wildland hand crews; 12 are Type 2 and one, the Phoenix Crew is Type 2IA (initial attack)
- Partnership with USFS for air resources such as, VLAT (DC10), LAT, and scoopers. State has in-house Single Engine Air Tanker and Air Attack platforms
- DPS utilized for helicopter support/work



Thank You



DFFM.az.gov